

CalWORKs PLAN ADDENDUM

WELFARE-TO-WORK GRANT PROGRAM

There are two agencies that currently receive Welfare-to-Work funds. These agencies are the Job Training Center of Tehama County, which is the Local Workforce Investment Board, and the Tehama County Department of Social Services. The Job Training Center is the recipient of the 25% Welfare to Work Grant funds and the Tehama County Department of Social Services receives the State Welfare to Work Grant matching funds.

Through local planning processes, Tehama County did not identify any specific focus on eligible populations. However, it was determined that due to the limited amount of grant and state matching funds, non-custodial parents would not be served. Currently, the Tehama County Department of Social Services contracts with the Job Training Center for the operation of the State Welfare to Work Grant matching funds. The Job Training Center uses these funds to support the “work crews” and to provide employment services to former foster children who are 18 to 25 years of age. The “work crews” were established to provide participants, who have no work experience, with exposure to a work environment that is structured, supportive, and non-threatening. As participants gain work experience, skills, and self-confidence, they are then placed in individual work experience placements. The goal is to ultimately have the participants in full-time unsubsidized employment.

Duplication of services with State WtW Grant matching funds will not occur since the Job Training Center is the only agency receiving WtW Grant and State Grant matching funds.

The following process was established to identify, refer and serve eligible WtW Grant populations. The Tehama County Department of Social Services screens all CalWORKs participants at appraisal for eligibility to the WtW Grant Program. After completion of an intensive job search workshop, those participants who remain unemployed or under employed complete a vocational assessment to determine an appropriate employment goal. These participants are then referred to the Job Training Center for registration. After registering the participant in the WtW Grant Program, the Job Training Center calls a case management team meeting to finalize an employment plan and coordinate the services to be provided. The Job Training Center, in collaboration with the Independent Living Services Program and Children’s Protective Services does the outreach to the former foster children.